

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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R 082330Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9337

ALL CONSULATES IN MEXICO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 7080

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT MX

SUBJECT: NEW POLITICAL FAIL TO REGISTER

REFS: MEXICO A-457, OCT 16, 1974; MEXICO 9846 (NOVEMBER

22 , 1974; MEXICO 5614 (JUNE 26, 1974)

1. REFS A AND B REPORTED ON ACTIVITIES OF TWO POLITICAL PARTIES IN FORMATION, THE MEXICAN PARTY OF WORKERS (PMT) AND THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY (PST). BOTH HAVE BEEN ACTIVELY ORGANIZING AND RECRUITING MEMBERSHIP AND HAD HOPED TO REGISTER IN TIME (JULY 1975) TO PARTICIPATE IN JULY 1976 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS. REF C REPORTED MEXICAN COMMUNIST PARTY (PCM) HAD ENTERTAINED SIMILAR HOPES. THE MEXICAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PDM), A FOURTH GROUP WHICH IS COMPOSED OF EXTREME RIGHT WING ELEMENTS AND WHICH HAD BEEN QUIET FOR SEVERAL YEARS, RESURFACED IN JUNE TO ANNOUNCE ITS INTENTION OF OBTAINING REGISTRATION. OF THE FOUR ONLY THE PDM ACTUALLY PRESENTED AN APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION TO THE SECRETARIAT OF GOBERNACION. THIS PETITION APPARENTLY HAS NOT BEEN APPROVED.

2. THE EXPLANATION MAY BE SIMPLY A LEGAL ONE, IN THAT NONE OF THE FOUR MET THE REQUIREMENTS (65,000 SIGNATURES, BUT WITH STIPULATIONS REGARDING GEOGRAPHIC SPACING, NOTARIZATION OF SIGNATURES, ETC., DIFFICULT TO MEET).

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HOWEVER THE BACKGROUND SUGGESTS SOMETHING MORE FUNDAMENTAL

HAS OCCURRED. A MAJOR PART OF ECHEVERRIA'S POLITICAL REFORM WAS EXPLICIT AND IMPLICIT ENCOURAGEMENT TO DISSIDENT GROUPS TO ORGANIZE POLITICAL PARTIES AND TO ACT WITHIN THE LAW. THE 1973 ELECTORAL LAW LOWERED THE NUMBER OF SIGNATURES REQUIRED BY 10,000. IMPLICIT ENCOURAGEMENT WAS GIVEN IN ECHEVERRIA'S RECEIVING DISSIDENT GROUPS, EXHORTING THEM TO ORGANIZE, AND PROMISING THAT THOSE WHO MET THE REQUIREMENTS WOULD BE DULY REGISTERED. THE VARIOUS GROUPS PROBABLY HOPED THAT THE GOM WOULD GRANT RECOGNITION TO AT LEAST ONE NEW POLITICAL PARTY IF ONLY TO GIVE SUBSTANCE TO THE MUCH BALLYHOOED POLITICAL REFORM. REGISTRATION OF A PARTY IN TIME FOR ITS PARTICIPATION IN NEXT YEAR'S ELECTIONS WOULD HAVE MAXIMIZED THE PUBLICITY FAVORABLE TO THE GOM. THUS WE BELIEVE THAT, HAVING LET THE IDEAL MOMENT PASS, THE GOM WILL NOT LIKELY REGISTER ONE OF THE PARTIES IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

3. COMMENT: REF C REPORTED THAT THE "RESUMPTION OF THE ADVERSARY RELATIONSHIP" BETWEEN THE GOM AND THE PCM MIGHT REFLECT FAILURE TO REACH AGREEMENT THAT, IN TURN FOR REGISTRATION, THE PCM WOULD SUPPORT THE PRI PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE. ALTHOUGH WE CAN ONLY SPECULATE, A SIMILAR FAILURE TO STRIKE A DEAL MAY BE BEHIND THE FAILURE OF THE PST AND THE PMT EVEN TO PRESENT APPLICATIONS. (WE ASSUME THE GOM WOULD APPROVE THE RIGHTEST PDM APPLICATION ONLY IF THE APPROVAL WERE BALANCED BY REGISTRATION OF ONE OF THE LEFTIST PARTIES.) OUR GUESS IS THE PST AND THE PMT (LIKE THE PCM) MAY HAVE BEEN WILLING TO SUPPORT SOME PRI PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES BUT COULD NOT GO ALONG WITH AN AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD PROBABLY MEAN SUPPORTING THE CANDIDACY OF GOVERNMENT SECRETARY MOYA PALENCIA.  
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